TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2576 - SB 2756

February 8, 2022

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates a Class E felony offense for a public official to make a false statement or distribute false information concerning public health.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$1,200 Incarceration

Assumptions:

- The proposed legislation creates a Class E felony offense for a public official to intentionally make a statement or distribute information to the public concerning public health, when the official knows or reasonably should know that the statement or information is false.
- The proposed legislation will result in one admission for the Class E felony offense of making a false statement or distributing false information concerning public health every 10 years.
- The average time served for a Class E felony is 0.66 years.
- Based on population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, population growth in Tennessee averaged 0.74 percent per year for each of the past 10 years (from 2010 to 2020).
- The weighted average operational costs per day are estimated to be \$51.36 for inmates housed at state facilities and \$48.77 for inmates housed at local facilities.
- The estimated increase in incarceration costs are estimated to be the following over the next ten-year period:

Increase in State Expenditures		
1	Amount	Fiscal Year
\$	1,200	FY22-23
\$	1,200	FY23-24
\$	1,200	FY24-25
\$	1,200	FY25-26
\$	1,200	FY26-27
\$	1,200	FY27-28
\$	1,200	FY28-29
\$	1,200	FY29-30
\$	1,200	FY30-31
\$	1,200	FY31-32

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 9-4-210, recurring costs increases are to be estimated on the highest of the next ten fiscal years; therefore, the recurring increase in incarceration costs will be \$1,200.
- Based on the Fiscal Review Committee's 2008 study and the Administrative Office of the Courts' 2012 study on collection of court costs, fees, and fines, collection in criminal cases is insignificant. The proposed legislation will not significantly change state or local revenue.
- The estimated fiscal impact of the proposed legislation does not consider the availability of beds in state and local facilities, but is based solely on the current operating costs of state facilities and the reimbursement rates for local facilities as is required by Tenn. Code Ann. § 9-4-210.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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